

II. REMARKS

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 11-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are pending.

Claims 2, 5, 6, 10, 15, 18 and 21-28 have been previously cancelled.

Claims 1, 14 and 20 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the application as published in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0060252, specifically at paragraph [0052] of the specification. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment.

B. Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 11-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,347,307 (hereinafter "Sandhu") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,757,710 (hereinafter "Reed") in further in view of European Patent Application No. 0597316 (hereinafter "Eugene"). With respect to the currently pending claims, this rejection is traversed. Applicant submits that the above-identified references fail to render obvious the methods and systems of the pending claims, in particular the element of the pending claims that provides for "wherein at least one of the entities is a Watcher entity configured to monitor at least one of the one or more attributes and output a message in response to a change in the at least one of the one or more attributes."

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that Sandhu and Reed fail to make obvious the use of a Watcher entity. *Office Action pages 3-4*. However, the Examiner alleges that Eugene cures the aforementioned deficiency of Sandhu and Reed. Eugene is directed to a development system used to design, test, and implement user interfaces associated with a given physical prototype. *Eugene page 2, lines 24-25*. For example, the given prototype may be a radio,

wherein the interface provides dials and knobs as virtual objects used to mimic the actions of their physical counterpart. *Eugene page 6, lines 8-11*. These virtual objects or entities are configured to simulate the actions of a real world object and are not configured to monitor an attribute associated with an entity within a hierarchy of entities. Furthermore, the virtual objects in Eugene do not produce an output message in response to a change in an attribute. Therefore Eugene does not cure the deficiency of Sandhu and Reed. As a result, the combination of Sandhu, Reed and Eugene fails to make obvious the pending claims. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejection of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

For at least the reasons set forth above, this patent application, as amended, is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of this patent application are respectfully requested.

If it will advance the prosecution of this patent application, the Examiner is urged to telephone (973.422.6724) Applicants' undersigned representative. All written communications should continue to be sent to the address provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
Lowenstein Sandler PC
65 Livingston Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068

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/Brian W. Weber/
Brian W. Weber, Esq.
Attorney for the Applicant
Reg. No. 58,628